



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

## JOURNALS AND NEW BOOKS

THE BRITISH JOURNAL OF PSYCHOLOGY. September, 1916. *A Hierarchy without a Great Factor* (pp. 271-281): GODFREY H. THOMSON. — The object of the paper is to show that the cases brought forward by Professor Spearman in favor of the existence of general ability are by no means "crucial." "It has here been shown that a certain set of correlation coefficients, which we *know* to contain no general factor, would be claimed by Professor Spearman as giving further support to the existence of such a factor. *There is therefore nothing to show whether the many cases brought forward by him really contain a general factor or not.*" Work on correlation and hierarchies has shown: (1) Since correlation does actually exist between tests, there must be either group factors or a general factor present, or both. (2) If there is no general factor, then it is probable that the group factors *overlap* in a complicated fashion, for otherwise there would be no hierarchy. But even this is by no means certain, for as a rule very few columns reach the correlation standard which Professor Spearman has laid down, and these few may be among the minority which do not correlate highly even on Thorndike's theory of non-overlapping group factors. (3) There is not the slightest mathematical evidence so far forthcoming which will enable us to distinguish between *overlapping* group factors and a general factor. *Some Comments on Mr. Thomson's Paper* (pp. 282-285): C. SPEARMAN. — "For all that can be seen," the "special arrangement" used by Mr. Thomson "might involve psychological absurdities. It might even reintroduce the general factor by a back door. And in point of fact, as my next paper will show, it does both." *The Relations between Magic and Animism* (pp. 285-316): CARETH READ. — Wundt's and Frazer's theories are mentioned. The following topics are discussed: (1) Ideas and Practises of Magic adopted by Animism; (2) Retrogradation; (3) Spirits inspire magicians; (4) Spirits operate by magic; (5) Spirits are controlled by magic. *The Prevalence of Spatial Contrast in Visual Perception* (pp. 317-326): W. G. SMITH. — The object of the paper is to present observations regarding the modifications in spatial perception which are introduced when a line in the visual field, whose length is being estimated, is accompanied by another line parallel to it and of varying length. The subjects were 20 men and 20 women, members of the class of psychology in the University of Edinburgh during the summer of 1913. The writer concludes: "There is little or no evidence in the general results of this investigation dealing with parallel lines that contrast is distinctly and generally operative in modifying the apparent length of a line. On the other hand, there are certain facts which may be regarded as suggesting that it is present together with other conditions,

such as confluence, which in certain situations neutralize its influence, but in others permit it to appear. When the subjects are divided into groups of men and women it is that the results of the former group are more readily interpreted in accordance with contrast, and those of the latter in accordance with confluence. It is found that, while the average length of the reproduced is less than that of the presented line with both men and women, the tendency towards decrease is markedly greater in the group of men." *A Contribution to the Study of Fatigue* (pp. 327-350): MAY SMITH. — The problem may be expressed in the following questions: (1) Is it possible to measure fatigue objectively? (2) What are the immediate effects of fatigue? Do they differ in any measurable degree from the remoter effects? (3) How long does it take to return to a normal condition as estimated by an objective standard after undoubted fatigue, and what is the nature of the recovery curve? (4) What is the effect of fatigue on an already fatigued state? (5) What is the relation between fatigue as experienced by the fatigued person and fatigue as estimated by some objective standard? The tests used were the Dotting Machine Experiment and Mr. McDougall's modified form of it; the windmill, an illusion of reversible perspective; the learning and relearning of nonsense syllables; tapping test for speed. The writer concludes from the evidence afforded by these experiments that (1) Fatigue as estimated objectively involves two distinct phases; a phase when fatigue acts apparently as a stimulant, so that work demanding concentrated attention is done more effectively than under normal conditions and a phase of longer duration when the body is attempting to make good its losses, which phase is characterized by a general loss of accuracy of aiming, in a weakening of the powers of inhibition, as shown by the increase in the number of uncontrolled dots, in marked loss of the power of concentration, as shown by the inability to attend to the words of a list, and in loss of retentiveness, as instanced by the inability to reproduce the words when the connections have been realized, and in the increased number of repetitions required to relearn a group of nonsense syllables. (2) The subjective feelings bear no relation to the objective demonstration of fatigue, extremely bad work being not infrequently accompanied by a conviction that it is unusually good. (3) There is the suggestion that it is possible to become partially immune to a particular form of fatigue. (4) The time taken to return to a normal condition after the loss of but a few hours' sleep is disproportionately great; and this return is gradual, but irregular. (5) Fatigue acts on a fatigued state as it does on the normal, *i. e.*, while the strain is present there is improvement, but the return to a reliable normal is considerably delayed. *The Influence of the Form of a Question* (pp. 351-389): BERNARD MUSCIO. — The specific aim was to

compare certain question forms in regard to their respective influence upon answers, it being assumed, as a result of previous experiments in the psychology of evidence, that the answer to a question is under certain conditions partly determined by the question's form. The conclusions are: (1) Changing the indefinite *a* into the definite *the* article in a question form decreases suggestiveness, decreases caution, decreases reliability. (2) Introducing a negative into a question form increases suggestiveness, decreases caution, decreases reliability. (3) Changing a subjective-direction into an objective-direction question form decreases suggestiveness, decreases caution, decreases reliability. (4) Including both the definite article and a negative in the one question form, increases the caution and increases the reliability of the resulting form compared either with the form containing the indefinite article and a negative or with that containing the definite article and no negative. (5) Including both the objective-direction and a negative in the question form decreases the suggestiveness, decreases the caution, and increases the reliability of the resulting form compared with that containing the subjective-direction and a negative. (6) The implicative question form is lower than all the other question forms investigated for suggestiveness, caution, and reliability. (7) The incomplete disjunction question form possesses a relatively high suggestiveness, a relatively low caution, and a relatively low reliability. The general conclusion is that the most reliable form question is the subjective-direction question form which contains neither a negative nor the definite article. *Publications Recently Received.*

Adler, Alfred. Study of Organ Inferiority and its Psychical Compensation: A Contribution to Clinical Medicine. Tr. by Smith Ely Jelliffe. Nervous and Mental Disease Monograph Series, No. 24. New York: Nervous and Mental Disease Publishing Company. 1917. Pp. x + 86.

Keith, A. Berriedale, and Carnoy, Albert J. The Mythology of All Races: Indian and Iranian. Volume VI. Boston: Marshall Jones Company. 1917. Pp. ix + 404.

Stecher, Lorle Ida. The Effect of Humidity on Nervousness and on General Efficiency. Archives of Psychology, No. 38. Edited by R. S. Woodworth. New York: The Science Press. 1916. Pp. v + 94.